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USSR CUTS DOWN USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF STEEL; STRESSES NEED FOR NATION-WIDE METAL SAVING

URGE SUBSTITUTES FOR SHEET, MULTIPURPOSE STEELS -- Sbornik Rukovodyashchikh Materialov I Konsul'tatsiy Po Stroitel' Stvu, No 10, 1950

Order No 749 of the Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises, dated 26 August 1950, states, in part, as follows:

Planning and construction organizations of the Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises still fail to give the necessary attention to the saving of sheet steel and multipurpose steel, because there is a shortage of these types of rolled steel. As a result, consumption of such steel for steel structures of industrial buildings continues to be very high, constituting about 45 to 50 percent of the total metal consumption for these structures. Insufficient use is being made of lattice girder construction, and excessive thickness of sheet steel for construction purposes is being permitted; sheet steel is used for flooring work platforms, bridges, etc., where it could be replaced by other types of rolled steel or other materials.

To ensure a sharp reduction in the consumption of sheet and multipurpose steel, the following rules must be observed:

In planning and constructing steel structures of buildings, all planning and construction organizations of the Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises must, on a wide scale, replace sheet and multipurpose steel by section steel, using types of structures which do not require an increase in the total consumption of metal. For this purpose it is necessary that steel frameworks of industrial buildings should, as a rule, be designed as lattice girder structures with the use of section steel. In structures using sheet steel as the basic material, its weight must be reduced to a minimum by efficient planning, by using more precise methods for calculating structures, and by careful machining of structural parts.

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The thickness of sheet steel should not be increased as a measure against corrosion. The use of sheet metal for hoppers should be limited by using reinforced-concrete hoppers or combination hoppers with reinforced-concrete walls and a metal framework. Sheet steel flooring of platforms must be replaced by lattice flooring of round or flat steel, or, wherever possible, by wooden flooring, and reinforced-concrete floors should be widely used for work platforms in industrial buildings.

INSISTS ON STRINGENT METAL CONSERVATION -- Moskovskaya Pravda, 16 Jan 51

Despite the tremendous achievements of the metallurgical industry, the national economy requires a sharp increase in the output of many profiles of rolled metal, and the drive for saving metal should be emphasized more strongly. There is a continuous and rapid increase in the requirements of the metal-consuming branches of economy, particularly the machine-building and construction industries. However, the increased demand does not give the entire picture. The shortage of different types of metal is caused to a considerable degree by the failure to utilize the metal supplies on hand. In many cases, such as in repair shops, in most of the local industry enterprises, and in industrial cooperatives, consumption of metal is not even governed by norms.

The problem of nation-wide, strict economy of metal is one of the most important problems of the national economy and should be of prime interest to party, administrative and technical directors, and workers not only in industry, but in the scientific research institutes which serve these industries.

The drive for output of additional goods from saved metal, started recently by the Kolomna locomotive builders, has had good results. However, this success is only the first step in the direction of saving metal. In the majority of enterprises, economy of metal has been achieved primarily by decreasing the obvious and inexcusable losses of metal, decreasing the output of defective goods, reducing waste, etc. The effort to reduce such obvious metal losses is not the only method of saving metal, but rather is merely the minimum required of everyone. Together with the reduction of obvious losses, it is necessary to utilize purely technical and engineering resources to the fullest degree. There should be a radical revision and recalculation and a considerable reduction of the norms for metal consumption per unit of production by means of changing the design and the technology of production of machine parts.

At the Presnenskiy Machine-Building Plant it was found that all parts, both cast iron and rolled metal, could be lightened by as much as 7-10 percent, and even in some cases by 25 percent. At the "Kompressor" Plant, an analysis of the existing norms for metal consumption led to the same conclusion.

The creative power of engineers, technicians, and Stakhanovites has not been mobilized in many enterprises to revise outdated, traditional norms for metal consumption. Such active means of effecting metal savings as the revision of machine design and the drive for adoption of new and more durable materials and advanced technology are clearly not being used sufficiently.

The technical resources available to Soviet enterprises are incomparably richer than they were 10-15 years ago. Plants can and should, as widely as possible, use chill casting, centrifugal and pressure casting and stamping rather than free forging, and stamped parts rather than cast parts. The number of grinding machines able to machine parts with the minimum allowances of metal has grown immeasurably. All these factors make it possible to cut metal consumption many times.

The drive for metal saving can be carried on not only by metal consumers, but also by metallurgists. In particular, the latter must increase the output of rolled products according to the so-called minus allowances.

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